



Saguaro National Park (West)

Naturalist Program Schedule

Programs meet at the Red Hills Visitor Center, 2700 N. Kinney Road, and last 30 to 45 minutes, unless noted otherwise. Program schedules are subject to change. Call the visitor center at (520) 733-5158 for updates. See www.nps.gov/sagu for other programs. *Programs marked with an * are wheelchair accessible.*

April 12 –April 18, 2010

Monday – April 12

10:45 a.m. Mysterious Mammal .75 mile, 1 hr. Hike

Sonoran Desert mammals are seldom seen, but they are present in great diversity and numbers. Where are they? How do they survive in the desert climate? Come along to learn the answers.

2:15 p.m. Life on the Edge: Plant And Animal Survival Strategies Easy 100 yard Walk*

Adaptations to seemingly harsh conditions allow many species to survive and even flourish, but will desert plants and animals be able to weather climate changes?

Tuesday – April 13

10:45 a.m. Lost and Gone Forever 1.5 mile, 1.5 hr. Hike

Learn how species become threatened, endangered or extinct. What are the consequences of habitat loss or climate change to those that call this place home?

11:45 a.m. They're Mining Our National Park?? Slide Program*

No, but they did before it became a National Park. If you are interested in the mining in this region and other local history, join us for this program.

2:15 p.m. Meet the Cuckoo of the Desert Illustrated Talk*

Learn about the natural history, behaviors and fascinating facts about this colorful creature: the Roadrunner.

3:15 p.m. Life on the Edge: Plant And Animal Survival Strategies Easy 100 yard Walk*

Adaptations to seemingly harsh conditions allow many species to survive and even flourish, but will desert plants and animals be able to weather climate changes?

Wednesday – April 14

10:45 a.m. Lost and Gone Forever 1.5 mile, 1.5 hr. Hike

Learn how species become threatened, endangered or extinct. What are the consequences of habitat loss or climate change to those that call this place home?

11:45 a.m. Synergy in the Desert: The Sonoran Habitat Illustrated Talk + 50 yard Walk*

For all of life, “the whole is greater than the sum of the parts” is true. The iconic Saguaro is the focal point for a discussion of how the parts of the Sonoran Desert work together to create a rich living desert that is unique in the world.

2:15 p.m. Those Who Came Before Patio Talk*

Learn about the Hohokam (those who are gone), who inhabited this area from A.D. 300 to A.D. 1450.

3:15 p.m. Life on the Edge: Plant And Animal Survival Strategies Easy 100 yard Walk*

Adaptations to seemingly harsh conditions allow many species to survive and even flourish, but will desert plants and animals be able to weather climate changes?

Thursday – April 15

10:45 a.m. Desert Sojourn Patio Talk*

Find out why this human perceived “harsh” environment is “Heaven on earth” for animals and plants.

11:45 a.m. Lost and Gone Forever 1.5 mile, 1.5 hr. Hike

Learn how species become threatened, endangered or extinct. What are the consequences of habitat loss or climate change to those that call this place home?

1:15 p.m. Ancient Graffiti Illustrated Talk*

Learn about the different kinds of rock art from the past, who made them and how we determine their age.

Friday – April 16

10:45 a.m. Lost and Gone Forever 1.5 mile, 1.5 hr. Hike

Learn how species become threatened, endangered or extinct. What are the consequences of habitat loss or climate change to those that call this place home?

2:15 p.m. Life on the Edge: Plant And Animal Survival Strategies Easy 100 yard Walk*

Adaptations to seemingly harsh conditions allow many species to survive and even flourish, but will desert plants and animals be able to weather climate changes?

3:15 p.m. Snakes Patio Talk*

Learn about the communication skills, special adaptations, and defense systems of these often misunderstood creatures. A bit of folk lore is also shared.

5:15 p.m. Silhouettes at Sundown 2.5 miles, 2.5 hr. Hike

Trek along an arroyo as the setting sun magically silhouettes the Southwest's most famous icon – the giant saguaro. Reservations required; call 733-5158

Saturday – April 17

10:45 a.m. Snakes Patio Talk*

Learn about the communication skills, special adaptations, and defense systems of these often misunderstood creatures. A bit of folk lore is also shared.

1:15 p.m. Homesteading Adventures in the Desert Patio Talk*

Enjoy the fascinating oral history surrounding Mexican American Homesteaders' adventures around Saguaro National Park communities.

3:15 p.m. The CCC and its impact on Saguaro National Park Illustrated Talk*

The Civilian Conservation Corps was a Depression-era work program that had a great influence on National, State, and County parks throughout the Nation. Saguaro's trails, picnic areas, and scenic drives were established during this program. A brief history of the CCC in this area will be illustrated with old photo images and movie clips.

Sunday – April 18

National Park Week April 18 – 24

In addition to regularly scheduled lectures and walks presented by park naturalists, the following special programs will be offered:

Daily 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Arizona Parks Exhibit

A special exhibit about the National Parks in Arizona will be displayed in the Red Hills Visitor Center this week.

Daily 11:45 a.m. & 2:15 p.m. National Parks Trivia Game

Do you think you know your National Parks? Test your knowledge in our special Trivia Contest.

Prizes for winners! Accessible.

3:15 p.m. Snakes Patio Talk*

Learn about the communication skills, special adaptations, and defense systems of these often misunderstood creatures. A bit of folk lore is also shared.